UNITED
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Economic and Social Council

PROVISIONAL

For participants only

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26 January 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Organizational session for 1993

PROVISIONAL SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 1st MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 26 January 1993, at 10.30 a.m.

Temporary President:	Mr. TRAXLER	(Italy)
President:	Mr. SOMAVIA	(Chile)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.50 a.m.

OPENING OF THE SESSION

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT declared open the organizational session of the Economic and Social Council for 1993.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT informed the members of the Council that the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States had endorsed the candidacy of Mr. Somavía (Chile) for the office of President of the Council for 1993.

Mr. Somavía (Chile) was elected President by acclamation.

Mr. Somavía (Chile) took the Chair.

The PRESIDENT said that, under rule 18 of the rules of procedure, the Council was required to elect four Vice-Presidents. He had been informed that, as a result of consultations among the regional groups, the following candidates had been nominated: Mr. Huslid (Norway), Mr. Kouyate (Guinea), Mr. Byung Yong Soh (Republic of Korea) and Mr. Slipchenko (Ukraine).

Mr. Huslid (Norway), Mr. Kouyate (Guinea), Mr. Byung Yong Soh (Republic of Korea) and Mr. Slipchenko (Ukraine) were elected Vice-Presidents of the Council for 1993 by acclamation.

The PRESIDENT said that 1993 was an important year for the Economic and Social Council because the recent decisions on its restructuring would be applied fully for the first time. At its substantive session, the Council would have to take action on the decisions adopted at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Preparations in the Council for the World Summit for Social Development would also continue. Those two items alone were indicative of the importance of the Council's work.

The main issue facing the Council was how it should approach the key areas of economic and social development at a time when public opinion perceived the United Nations and its principal organs as pre-eminent in those

(The President)

areas. The Council must ensure that the importance of its work was understood both by Governments and by world public opinion. The new international situation provided an opportunity to tackle that issue in a spirit of cooperation and dialogue, free from the old divisions which for so long had made it impossible to work together.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

The CHAIRMAN recalled that, with the adoption of resolutions 1988/77 and 1989/114, the Council had decided upon a number of measures aimed at revitalizing and improving its functioning. Further measures to that end had been adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/264. On the basis of the guidelines set out in those resolutions, the Council would have before it for consideration at its organizational session the provisional agenda for that session (E/1993/2 and Add.1) and a note by the Secretary-General containing a proposed programme of work (E/1993/1). He also drew the Council's attention to the matters requiring action at the current session listed under item 2 of the provisional agenda.

In conformity with the provisions of paragraph 2 (i) of Council resolution 1988/77, he intended to hold preliminary consultations with the officers and members of the Council on the proposed basic programme of work and other organizational matters. That procedure should enable the Council to shorten its organizational session.

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.